

A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville

Agreement Propels Town Center

Selection of Residential Co-Developers Opens Path For Winter Start

The Mayor and Council of Rockville have reached an agreement with developer Federal Realty Investment Trust and residential developer RD Rockville, LLC, that further solidifies plans to build the City’s Town Center.

On July 10, from the eighth floor of the new Foulger-Pratt office building that overlooks the site of the new downtown, the parties announced that they have agreed on terms for a letter of intent. The Mayor and Council ratified the letter of intent at the July 14 general session.

The selection of RD Rockville, LLC, as the residential co-developer is the final major private sector piece to the plan to develop the 15 acres that will be the first phase of the new Town Center. That area is bordered by Beall Avenue on the north; Middle Lane on the south; North Washington Street on the west and Maryland Route 355 on the east. Eventually, from this

central start, Town Center redevelopment will expand to a total of about 60 acres.

The new Town Center will include a mix of retail, restaurant, entertainment, residential and office uses. The new Rockville Regional Library, which will become the largest library in the Montgomery County system, will be a key element of Town Center. A town square that fronts the library is included in the design, along with wide sidewalks that will create a pedestrian environment with outdoor cafes.

The planned 665-775 units of residences will include 350-400 apartments and 315-375 one- and two-bedroom condominiums. Three public parking garages and one private garage, along with on-street parking, will create extensive parking to support the project.

It is intended that construction on the library, the town square, the first parking garage and the first retail



Rockville Town Center took a major step forward in July with selection of the two co-developers for the residential projects. Many of the key stakeholders of Town Center attended the announcement of the agreement at Foulger-Pratt Metro Plaza. Excited by the progress were, left to right, State Senator Jennie Forehand; Clayton Foulger of Foulger-Pratt; Scott Ross of residential co-developer S.J. Ross; John Tschiderer of Federal Realty; Mayor Larry Giammo; John Jaeger of residential co-developer DANAC Corporation; and Councilmembers Bob Dorsey and Susan Hoffmann.

buildings will begin in winter 2003-04. Those projects are scheduled to be completed by winter 2005-06.

The selection of RD Rockville, LLC, is considered a crucial decision made by the Mayor and Council in coop-

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eration with Federal Realty. Town Center design guidelines call for the residential units to be built above retail stores to create a mix that will keep downtown busy after 5 p.m. and on weekends—and provide a ready market for the new retail stores that will locate in the new downtown. RD Rockville, LLC, will develop the residential units under its entities S.J. Ross Development and DANAC Corporation, firms known for their extensive work in Montgomery County and Rockville.

Information on the draft design guidelines is available from Rockville’s Department of Community Planning and Development Services at City Hall at 240-314-8200. [RR](#)

Survey Says: Residents Like Rockville

93 Percent of Respondents Say Quality of Life ‘Excellent’ or ‘Good’

The results from the second biennial Rockville Citizen Survey say residents like living in the City.

Of those responding to the survey conducted by the National Research Center of Boulder, Colo., 93 percent said the quality of life in Rockville was “excellent” or “good.” Compared to other cities nationally that conduct citizen surveys and ask about quality of life, Rockville ranked in the 81st percentile.

Among 49 categories that appear on surveys conducted by other cities, Rockville was “above the norm” in 34 categories, “similar to the norm” in 13 categories and “below

the norm” in only two categories.


Rockville’s concentration on safety received particularly high marks in the survey. Among 40 other cities nationally that ask a similar question, Rockville ranked No. 1. Of those responding, 93 percent said they felt “very safe” or “reasonably safe” while “walking alone in your neighborhood during the day” and 91 percent said they felt safe “walking in business areas during the day.”

“The feeling of safety in your neighborhood ranked so high it was almost off the charts,” said Tom Miller, President of the National Re-

search Center.

The seven-page 2003 survey was mailed to 3,000 randomly selected households in the City with an approximate population of 48,000. Completed surveys were returned by a very high 42 percent of recipients (the national average for municipal surveys ranges from 25 to 40 percent).

In addition to English, the survey was made available in five languages (Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Russian and Vietnamese), reflecting the City’s growing diversity according to the 2000 census. Translation help in some manor was provided to 122 respondents. [RR](#)



A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ... Rockville resident and activist Estelle Berberian was joined by more than 100 people at the Rockville Senior Center to celebrate her 100th birthday in July. Among those present were Mayor Larry Giammo (pictured above with Berberian), who ‘crowned’ the birthday girl. (See page 4 for complete story)

August’s Best of Rockville

Aug. 5

National Night Out. Get to know your local police officers as they travel to various neighborhoods in Rockville along with City officials. Block parties galore. 6-10 p.m. 240-314-8962

Aug. 6

The East Rockville Neighborhood Master Plan. Public Hearing at Planning Commission. 7 p.m. City Hall. 240-314-8211

Aug. 15-17

Rockville Musical Theater Center (pictured to the left) performs “The Music Man.” F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Call the box office for tickets: 240-314-8690

MAYOR & COUNCIL
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Skilled crews have been working diligently over the past few weeks to ensure the renovations at RedGate are top quality.

Better Bunkers at RedGate

Playing at Rockville’s RedGate Municipal Golf Course keeps getting better.

Known as one of the premiere public golf courses in the Washington metropolitan area, RedGate is receiving an extensive facelift, which should be completed by the end of August. The theme: baby bunkers.

The total square footage of sand areas (bunkers) on the 18 hole-course will be reduced from 42,000 to 28,000. In the end, only four bunkers will actually be eliminated, while smaller, more strategically placed bunkers will be constructed. In addition, efficient drainage has been installed to ensure better playing conditions during and after wet weather.

“This project will greatly en-

hance the playability of, and aesthetics of, RedGate while also reducing necessary maintenance,” RedGate Superintendent Ray Evans said. “Plus, with the renovations, regular golfers at RedGate will be challenged all over again.”

Overall, the project will bring more green space to the rolling hills of RedGate. When the current project is completed, there will be 91 separate ‘features’ on the course. Those features include 14 new grassy hollows, conversion of 28 sand bunkers into 27 grassy hollows, construction of 24 sand bunkers in new locations, converting 13 existing sand bunkers into 13 smaller bunkers and shifting the placement of 13 existing bunkers. [RR](#)



Focus on KIDZ CLUB

Rockville has many programs that affect the lives of residents. On a regular basis, “Focus On” will take an introspective look at these programs and detail the impact they have for City residents.

With 28 enthusiastic children, six extraordinary teachers and plenty of staff and parental support, the Academic Enhancement Program of the Twinbrook Kidz Club was destined to succeed.

And succeed it did.

The after-school Academic Enhancement Program, a City partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools with strong support from Rockville’s Mayor and Council, began last fall and included three sessions: November to January; January to March; and April to June. During each session the children from Twinbrook Elementary School spent two hours every week with teachers from the school and received instruction in reading, math and/or writing. But instead of working on specific routines, the teachers focused on concepts that could be applied cross-discipline.

“The kids were eager to go,” said Karen Rawlins, the City’s liaison and driving force behind the program. “The teachers made learning exciting for them. They learned while having fun.”

Rawlins, Twinbrook Principal Carolyn Cobbs and Assistant Principal Stacy Ganz were thrilled with the progress the children had.

“All 28 of the children made some improvement,” Rawlins said. “Most made dramatic improvements.”

Which is a direct reflection of the skill of teachers Elizabeth Clark, Karen Friedman, Joanne Hessler, Hollie Radziewicz and Kelley Winckler.

One instructor said she witnessed impressive achievements in math.

“I gave a nine-question pre-assessment where the average score was three out of nine,” Clark said. “We then used strategies and games to build the math sense for probability, place value and facts. The post-assessment showed an average score of seven out of nine with some students making 100 percent.”

The Academic Enhancement Program was designed as a pilot program this year. With its success, Rawlins is hoping to introduce the program at other sites.

“I received at least 12 phone calls from parents commenting on how good the program was for their child,” Rawlins said. “It’s not common to receive that many great phone calls.” [RR](#)



City Projects UPDATE

PUBLIC WORKS

GENERAL PROJECTS

Asphalt Maintenance • Asphalt Maintenance • Streets expected to be resurfaced include Ashley Manor Drive, Burgundy Drive, Calvin Court, Calvin Lane, Bernerd Place, Carl Street, Cedar Court, Cedar Lane, Coleman Park Lane, Crabb Avenue, Crofton Hill Lane, Dean Drive, Denham Road, Edmonston Drive, Farragut Avenue, Fletcher Place, Gilbert Road, Gilsco Place, Gladstone Drive, Grandin Avenue, Gruenther Avenue, Longwood Court Avenue, Longwood Drive, Maple Avenue, Marshall Avenue, McAulliffe Drive, Nimitz Avenue, Patton Place, Pinewood Road, Pumphrey Avenue, Research Court, Research Place, Rollins Court, Scott Avenue, Silver Rock Road, Veirs Mill Service Drive, Willoughby Avenue, Woodburn Road and Woodston Road • Work to start this month

Bike/Pedestrian Improvements • Darnestown Road sidewalk improvements planned for fall • Route 28 and Great Falls Road planned for summer 2004 • Beall Elementary School sidewalk improvements planned for summer 2004 • Horners Lane improvements planned for fall

Cabin John Parkway Dead End • Pavement to be removed and area restored following completion of repairs to nearby retaining wall by developer • Restoration expected to be completed in fall

Fallsgrove Off-Site Improvements • Intersections to be improved include West Montgomery Avenue and Shady Grove Road (completed); West Montgomery Ave. and Gude Drive (under construction); Gude Drive and Gaither Road; I-270 and Shady Grove Road (to be started in fall); I-270, Route 28 and Nelson St. (to be started in fall); and Gude Drive and Research Blvd. (complete)

Mount Vernon SWM • Improvements will be made to Cabin John Creek with modifications to existing storm water management • Construction ongoing • Completion in summer

North Horners Lane Utilities Improvement • Water main upgrade planned between Southlawn Lane and Westmore Avenue • Stream restoration is included • Construction in 2004

Tower Oaks Marsh • Marsh on east side of Tower Oaks Boulevard is under construction

Wootton Parkway Improvements • New traffic signal and an extra turn lane are being added on Scott Drive at Wootton Parkway to separate right and left turn movements • Intersection of Wootton Parkway and Glen Mill Road is being modified so Wootton Parkway continues straight to Darnestown Road • Both improvements are under construction and will completed this summer

TWINBROOK

Sewer Rehabilitation • Sewer evaluation survey, including flow monitoring and video inspection of underground piping, for the southeastern area of Twinbrook has been completed and the results are being evaluated • Smoke testing has begun • Construction planned for spring



This garage on the King Farm Farmstead will generally be brought up to code, including refurbishing of the front facade. (The design will be reviewed by the Historic District Commission.)

RECREATION & PARKS

Athletic Courts • Replace fence at Woodley Gardens tennis courts • New color coat application to Woodley Gardens and Twinbrook tennis and basketball courts • Construction in August

Ballfield Improvements • Installation of concrete storm drainpipe to begin in September • Install permanent batting cages at Mark Twain Athletic Park in September

Dawson Farm Park • Replacement of wooden bridge and reconstruction of granary in historically sensitive manner and to serve as a park shelter/gazebo • Installation of artwork • Construction should begin in late summer

Dog Park • Potential sites have been reviewed by The Rockville Dog Owners Group (R-DOG) • Recommended sites and group report will be presented to the appropriate community in August • Sites to be presented to Mayor and Council in early fall

Fall Street Tree Planting • Locations for plantings will be

identified by white arrow • Letters will be sent to addresses receiving trees • Planting begins September 15 and continues to December 15 (or until completion)

Fallsgrove Village Green • Park built and paid for by the developer • Completion by end of summer

King Farm Farmstead • Stabilization of barns and buildings • Demolition of deteriorated buildings and sheds • Work in compliance with task force recommendations and adopted plans • Securing permits

King Farm 28-Acre Park • King Farm resident survey on park features mailed in July • Public design meetings scheduled for fall

Millennium Trail • Norbeck Road multi-use path from East Gude Drive to Veirs Mill Road in design • Construction scheduled for 2003-04 • Resurfacing of path along Wootton Parkway from Edmonston Drive to Falls Road completed in July • Veirs Mill Road to Edmonston Drive currently under design (\$670,000 grant received)

Playground Equipment Improvement • Installation nearly complete at Isreal Park and Broome Park • Equipment replacements at Potomac Woods and Rockcrest Parks to begin in August • Design of replacement equipment at Maryvale Park and Elwood Smith Park to begin in September

RedGate Golf Course Master Plan • Bunker renovations under construction; completion set for August (see story on this page)

Rockville Senior Center • Expand dining room • Renovate kitchen • Soundproof card and computer rooms • Construction in fall

Urban Forest Renewal • Removal of aging and hazardous trees in Twinbrook and Potomac Woods is ongoing • Replacement plantings for trees removed this summer will take place either in the fall or next spring

I-270/Route 28 Bike/Pedestrian Bridge • Separate bridge parallel to Route 28 on south side across I-270 to connect Hurley Avenue and Nelson Street bikeways • TEA-21 award for \$3,124,421 received from State Highway Administration • Construction scheduled for 2004



Advisory Group members Julia Biggs and Bill Conley explain the Plan to neighborhood residents at the March East Rockville Neighborhood Advisory Group community meeting.

East Rockville Plan Moves Along Aug. 6

The yearlong efforts of the East Rockville Neighborhood Plan Advisory Group to redevelop and preserve the historic community will take a major step forward on Wednesday, Aug. 6, as the City's Planning Commission holds the first public hearing to discuss the draft document of the East Rockville Neighborhood Plan.

The plan reflects the community's desire to retain the neighborhood's identity as quiet and secure. The plan also recommends the redevelopment of the Stonestreet Avenue corridor and the eastern portion of the Rockville Metro station property as a mixed-use area that complements the East Rockville neighborhood.

Features of this mixed-use area might focus on the arts, with new buildings that reflect architectural styles from Rockville's past. A new Rockville science complex and museum could potentially anchor the corridor, along with structures that include neighborhood-serving retail shops, small-scale office space and residential units.

"The members of the group have developed this plan with a lot of thought, discussion and research," said Jim Wasilak, the City's Chief of Long-Range Planning. "Public reaction to date has been very positive, so I'm looking forward to the public hearing."

Included in the plan are issues such as reducing cut-through traffic in the community; retention of the neighborhood itself as a community of single-family homes; and enhancing the environmental quality of the community through stream and tree canopy improvements.

The general borders of the East Rockville Neighborhood Planning Area are First Street/Norbeck Road (Maryland Route 28) on the east, Veirs Mill Road on the south, the Stonestreet industrial corridor and Rockville Metro station on the west, and the Lincoln Park neighborhood and Southlawn industrial area on the north.

Members of the Advisory Group include neighborhood residents who were appointed by the Mayor and Council in 2002 to revise the existing 1982 Croydon Park Neighborhood Plan, and a Stonestreet corridor business owner and representative.

The Planning Commission's public hearing on Wednesday, Aug. 6, is at 7 p.m. in the Mayor and Council Chambers. Copies of the plan can be obtained from the Department of Community Planning and Development Services, or accessed online: www.ci.rockville.md.us/ernp/index.html. Call 240-314-8211 for more information. [RR](#)

NEXT STEP

- ✓ Public Hearing Aug. 6, 7 p.m.

Ideas Sought for 'Artistic' Town Center Master Plan

As the development of Rockville's new Town Center becomes a reality, the City is taking early steps to address the visual elements that will elevate the project to unparalleled levels.

The City has partnered with a local landscape architecture and urban design firm to develop a Master Plan that incorporates visual and performing

arts into Town Center to ensure Rockville's new downtown portrays the energy and image that have been envisioned.

To accomplish this, the City is encouraging residents to provide valuable input regarding the public art they would like to see in Town Center. Some may believe that public art should convey a message. Others may

Task Force to Study Plan for Developers to Pay for Public Art

One thing seems to be in agreement: More public art will make Rockville a better place. Gaining consensus on how to go about financing future art projects has been a little more difficult.

In the spring, the City appeared headed toward adopting a plan proposed by Rockville's Cultural Arts Commission to have developers of major projects contribute a percentage of construction costs for public art projects. However, at an April public hearing, a number of questions were raised about the specifics of the proposal. More study led to more questions.

At their general session of July 14, the Mayor and Council decided to follow a suggestion by Councilmember Susan Hoffmann to form a task force of stakeholders to further study and define the proposed ordinance for Public Art in Private Development.

The task force will be composed of Hoffmann, City resi-

dents and representatives of the Cultural Arts Commission, the Rockville Chamber of Commerce, developers and arts organizations. City staff members also will be on the task force. The group will meet over the summer and has been asked to have a report ready for a Sept. 29 worksession with the Mayor and Council.

NEXT STEP

- ✓ Task Force will report to Mayor and Council at Sept. 29 worksession at 7:30 p.m.

"There are areas of flexibility and there are clarifications of issues that need to be made," said Christine Heckhaus, Administrative Services Manager for Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks who has worked on the development of the ordinance.

"The task force will work toward shaping these guidelines so that they do what was intended from the start—help make Rockville an even better place."

The proposed ordinance calls for contributions to public art of one percent of new construction costs that exceed \$100,000 for projects of 10 or more single-family detached homes, townhouses or multi-family dwellings. For new commercial and industrial construction, one-half percent of costs exceeding \$500,000 would go for public art. For interior and exterior modifications of commercial development, one-quarter percent exceeding \$250,000 in costs would be contributed.

The definition of art under the current proposal was adopted from similar legislation in jurisdictions nationwide. Exterior and interior architectural design could be credited—if the work is designed by an artist in the design phase.

"Art can make a statement to all about who and what a city is, how it views itself and how others view it," states the introduction of the originally proposed guidelines for the plan. [RR](#)

More Parking Meters in City

The Mayor and Council have approved a plan that will install 394 new parking meters in three specific areas of Rockville. This will bring the total number of meters in the City to 502, including 108 that were installed two years ago in the Town Center area.

The new meters, which may be in place as early as this fall, will go:

- In the Town Center area on: Fleet Street (12 hour meters), Middle Lane (North Washington Street to South Adams), Monroe Place, Vinson Street and the 100 block of South Washington Street (all two hours)
- On North Stonestreet Avenue: from Park Road to Lincoln Avenue (12 hours)
- In the Congressional Lane area on: Bouic Avenue,

Chapman Avenue (from Halpine Road to Twinbrook Parkway), Halpine Road (from Route 355 to Chapman); and Thompson Avenue (from Route 355 to Chapman and Chapman to the dead end) (all 12 hours)

Walker Parking Consultants, a

NEXT STEP

- ✓ City Staff will evaluate meter issues; report to Mayor and Council

firm hired by the City to study parking issues, estimates the new meters could generate \$880,000 to \$1.4 million in revenue each year. The revenue will be one of several sources that will help pay for the three public parking garages to be built in the new Town Center.

In business areas, it is hoped

meters lead to more turnover of spaces to help merchants. Most meters will be in effect from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Extended 12-hour meters in some locations will be in effect from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on those same days.

The state-of-the-art meters, which will be purchased for \$135,600 from J.J. MacKay Canada, will have the ability to accept coins or pre-paid cards for which regular users can purchase specific monetary values from City Hall. [RR](#)



feel the art should relate to the proposed site. Some may feel the art should be on a human scale. Some may want local artists to be involved. Others may feel that artists should be selected from a national pool.

These issues, and more, will be considered over the next few months as the City gathers feedback from residents.

To gather a fair sample of responses, the City has organized a standard list of ques-

tions that all residents are encouraged to answer. Some questions are:

- What are Rockville's most valuable arts assets and resources?
- What are Rockville's most successful public events?
- The objectives include establishing a "distinctive Rockville identity." What does this mean to you? What values or concepts would

you like to see?

- What aspects of local history are most important to convey?
- What are some purposes or themes that might be appropriate for art in Town Center? A complete list questions can be obtained from Glenview Mansion or City Hall, or by calling Betty Wisda (Arts Program Supervisor) at 240-314-8681. [RR](#)



Senior Center ‘Founder’ Celebrates 100 Years

Of all her lifetime achievements, her foresight and dogged determination, Rockville resident Estelle Berberian said reaching 100 years of age was never something she anticipated.

“No, I didn’t think I would be around for it to happen,” Berberian said of her centennial milestone.

So to honor the revered resident, who was one of the driving forces in creating the Rockville Senior Center, Berberian’s family, friends, colleagues and admirers gathered on July 2 at the Center (three days shy of her official July 5 birthday) to celebrate the woman who inspired a City to evoke change in the name of older residents.

Approximately 150 guests toasted Berberian, who has

been described as one of the “hardest working,” “special” people Rockville has ever seen. These words were echoed throughout the celebration, which included a proclamation by Rockville’s Mayor and Council, and an award from State Senator Jennie Forehand and District 17 Legislator Kumar Barve. Also in attendance were former Rockville Mayor William Hanna and his wife, Annette.

“What we have done here today doesn’t even begin to do justice to what you deserve,” Mayor Larry Giammo said. “You have set such an example for Rockville.”

A Rockville resident for 30 years, Berberian was determined to find a meeting place for the City’s seniors. In her

late 70s, Berberian traveled around Maryland to visit other senior centers to collect information and ideas for a place where Rockville seniors could gather. Her vision became a reality in 1982 as the Rockville Senior Center first opened that April.

“We needed a place of our own,” Berberian said while sitting in the Senior Center auditorium, surrounded by dozens of friends, waiting to wish her a happy birthday. “We had the group, we just needed a building.”

Berberian’s life has been a consistent portrait of accomplishments. In 1932, she became one of the few women in the county to receive a B.S. in

teaching through Columbia University’s teaching college. She was a math teacher for many years, raised a family, then became an integral force in a popular Rockville business

– Animal Exchange. The business is owned and operated by Berberian’s daughter Ruth Hanessian.

“My mother has always kept doing things,” Hanessian said. “She’s so resilient and unbelievable. She’s always, always thinking. She did the books for the store up until she was 95, and has kept living life to the fullest.”

Berberian’s granddaughter, Margaret Swetz, echoed the sentiment.

“She took cooking classes

until she was 99,” Swetz said. “She’s always looking ahead, learning new things.”

The Senior Center’s Carnation Players honored Berberian with a special version of “Hello, Dolly,” titled “Hello, Estelle.” The Rockville Musical Theatre Center also performed.

Perhaps the most significant honor was presented by the group Young at Heart, which announced a new award in Berberian’s name – “The Estelle Berberian Volunteer Award”—for her selfless dedication in volunteer work.

“Estelle has done so much for this Center,” said Karen Lumpkin, the Senior Center Recreation Coordinator and organizer of the birthday celebration. “She has really earned the honor.” **RR**

“You have set such an example for Rockville.”

— Mayor Larry Giammo

Character Counts at 3rd Annual Awards Ceremony

Students from 17 Montgomery County public elementary, middle and high schools in Rockville were recently recognized for their efforts to better their communities and to inspire others at the City’s Department of Neighborhood and Community Services third annual American Youth Character Awards program.

Ten students, one adult and three groups were recognized for their contributions toward helping building character among youngsters. School administrators and teachers identified 106 nominees ages 9-18 for recognition under the 11-year-old national program called “Character Counts!” Award winners were announced at ceremonies on May 9 at Montgomery College.

Awards were presented by Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo and City Councilmembers Bob Dorsey and Susan Hoffmann. City Manager Mark Pentz and Director of Neighborhood and Community Services Guerdon Stuckey also were among those in attendance. Camille Lewis, who is Miss Maryland 2002, was the guest speaker.

The nonpartisan, nonsectarian Character Counts! Coalition is an alliance of nearly 300 nonprofit organizations dedicated to strengthening the character of young people.

Individual recipients of American Youth Character Awards were: Stephanie Cuellar, Mehrnoush Karimian, Christopher Kroeker, Sydni P. Mitchell, Henri Morel, Wendy Ngo, Laura Saidel and Patrick Wisda. James Cook and Parker Hudson were given individual awards based on their work together. The winners were

selected for significant contributions to their communities; for becoming students who have emerged as role models among their peers; or for attaining notable achievements after overcoming obstacles in their personal lives.

Brian Thomas, who works as an athletic coach at Richard Montgomery High School, was honored with a Youth Character Builder Award. He was selected among eight other adults nominated by fellow teachers and administrators. This was the first time Rockville honored an adult as a Youth Character Builder.

The Richard Montgomery Rocket Corps, which is a group of students who help tutor other students at the high school, was given a group American Youth Character Award. Special Service Recognition Awards for Character Building were given to the Richard Montgomery Human Relations/Character Counts! theatre group and the Rockville High School Character Counts! theatre and service group. The theatre groups perform entertaining enactments for young students that address ongoing issues and dilemmas that those students may face.

The Character Counts! program is much appreciative of the contributions made by the program’s sponsors and its steering committee. Sponsoring the program were the Kiwanis Club of Rockville; the Rockville Lions Club; the Rockville-based Musical Theatre Center; Montgomery College and the Vignola Pasta Gourmet restaurant. Members of the steering committee are: Rex Bickmore, Josie Lim Cruz, Ruth Hanessian, Lorenzo Ricks, Linda Warren and Monica Young. **RR**



The 23 residents who received Good Neighbor Awards were recognized by the Mayor and Council on July 14.

23 ‘Good Neighbors’ Honored in Rockville

Rockville’s Mayor and Council in July honored 23 residents with Good Neighbor Awards as part of a new program that recognizes individuals for contributions that better their communities.

The program, which will annually recognize citizens who improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods, was created by the City’s Department of Neighborhood and Community Services. Those who received plaques signifying their contributions were nominated by other residents. The awards were presented by the Mayor and Council before the July 14 general session.

“We hope that by recognizing the goodwill efforts that these citizens have made on behalf of their neighbors and

community, it will inspire others to do the same,” said Guerdon Stuckey, Rockville’s Director of Neighborhood and Community Services. “We also hope that this program will evolve into helping stimulate a sense of community pride. The Mayor and Council have stressed that pride is built from within a community itself, and we know that many good things have been happening quietly in Rockville for many years. By letting people know about some of these things, we hope others will say, ‘Hey, I can do that, too.’”

The nominees had to meet the following criteria to receive Good Neighbor Awards:

- Be residents of the City of Rockville
- Made significant contribu-

tions to their neighborhoods or to Rockville during the 2002-03 calendar year

- Demonstrated efforts beyond the scope of citizen responsibilities
- Demonstrated concern for their neighborhood’s well being or overall quality of life for Rockville

Residents who were honored include: Randy Alton, Robert Andrews, David Carter, Jimmy Carter, Richard Chace, Marie Consroe, Iness Davis, Christopher Garmer, Kathy Hickman, Wes Hickman, Raymond Lewis, Katie Makeig, James Marrinan, Edward Mattos, Megan McCormick, Mary McEachem, Robbin Morton, Greg Murdock, Helen Reed, Amy Robinson, George Sushinsky, Nancy Sushinsky and Butch Wright.

The honorees were selected for a variety of acts such as shoveling snow for neighbors or working toward the success of community programs.

Amy Robinson is typical of the award winners. The person who nominated Robinson wrote: “Amy is more than a good neighbor. She is a lifesaver. In my latest episode of illness, she has met my needs, both day and night. She has gone to the grocery story, picked up my prescriptions and bought me a battery-operated telephone so that help is always within reach. She has visited me any time I needed her—even at 3 a.m. ... With more people like Amy, Rockville would be a better place for everyone.” **RR**

INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the City Government at Work

Starting with the 2003 City elections, Rockville will be publishing all election-related materials that appear in Rockville Reports and on the City Web site in Spanish as well as English. The 2000 United States Census demonstrated the increasing Spanish-speaking population in Rockville. The City wants to ensure all residents have as much information as possible concerning voter registration and information about the election itself.

...

Election Deadlines

Rockville voters will go to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 4, to elect the mayor and four councilmembers. There is still time to register to vote. And there is still time to become a candidate for office.

If not already registered, those eligible to vote can register through Monday, Oct. 6. Registration forms are available at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or at the County Elections Office on Twinbrook Parkway.

City voter rolls are closed 30 days before an election, but the City's Election Ordinance allows eligible Rockville residents to register to vote at City Hall on Election Day. Those who register on Election Day must come to City Hall both to register and to vote instead of going to their regular polling site.

To vote, Rockville residents must:

- Be registered to vote either with the Montgomery

County Board of Supervisors of Elections or with the City of Rockville as a "City-only" voter

- Be U.S. citizens
- Be at least 18 years old by Nov. 4, 2003

The filing deadline for candidates is Friday, Sept. 5. To run for office, candidates must be Rockville residents for at least

one year prior to Election Day. The new City Campaign Policy will allow candidates to participate in up to three debates to be televised on The Rockville Channel. Candidates also will have the opportunity to have a statement published in *Rockville Reports*, on the City Web site and to make an unedited statement on The Rockville Channel.

For more information about the upcoming election, see the Web: www.ci.rockville.md.us. **RR**

Fechas Electorales

El martes 4 de noviembre, los votantes de la Ciudad de Rockville irán a las urnas para elegir al Alcalde y cuatro miembros del Consejo. Todavía hay tiempo para registrarse para votar y también hay tiempo para inscribirse como candidato a los cargos.

Si todavía no están registrados, quienes estén calificados para votar podrán hacerlo hasta el lunes 6 de octubre. Los formularios de registro están disponibles en la Oficina del Auxiliar Administrativo del Palacio Municipal, 111 Maryland Ave., o en la Oficina de Elecciones del

Condado en Twinbrook Parkway. Las

listas de votantes de la ciudad se cierran 30 días antes de una elección, pero la Ordenanza de Elecciones de la Ciudad permite que los residentes calificados de Rockville se matriculen para votar en el Palacio Municipal de la Ciudad el mismo día de la elección. Quienes se registren ese día deben concurrir al Palacio Municipal para registrarse y votar en lugar de presentarse en su lugar habitual de votación.

Para votar, los residentes de

Rockville deben:

- Estar registrados para votar en la Junta de Supervisores de Elecciones del Condado de Montgomery o en la Ciudad de Rockville como votante "solo para la ciudad".
- Ser ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos
- Tener por lo menos 18 años de edad al 4 de noviembre de 2003

La fecha límite para el registro de candidatos es el viernes 5 de septiembre. Para ser candidato a un cargo, las personas deben haber sido residentes de Rockville por lo menos un año antes del día de la elección. La nueva Política de Campaña de la Ciudad permite que los candidatos participen hasta en tres debates que se televisarán en el Canal de Rockville. Los candidatos también tienen oportunidad de publicar una declaración en los Informes de Rockville y en el sitio de la Ciudad en Internet, y a hacer una presentación no editada en el Canal de Rockville. Para más información acerca de la próxima elección, visite el sitio de la Ciudad en Internet en:

www.ci.rockville.md.us **RR**

— Translated by Victoria Imas-Duchovny



Mayor
Larry Giammo



Councilmember
Robert E. (Bob) Dorsey



Councilmember
John F. Hall, Jr.



Councilmember
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember
Anne M. Robbins

Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-7 p.m. on Mondays (unless otherwise noted) when there is a General Session or Public Hearing. Call the City Clerk's Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, Councilmembers scheduled for August and September are:

- **Aug. 4** Bob Dorsey
- **Sept. 8** John Hall, Jr.
- **Sept. 15** Susan Hoffmann
- **Sept. 22** Anne Robbins

Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel, and are available on streaming video at: www.ci.rockville.md.us. All meetings are subject to change.

- **Aug. 4 (Mon.)** General Session, 7:30 p.m.

SUMMER RECESS

- **Sept. 8 (Mon.)** General Session, 7:30 p.m.
- **Sept. 15 (Mon.)** Public Hearing and Worksession, 7:30 p.m.
- **Sept. 22 (Mon.)** General Session, 7:30 p.m.
- **Sept. 29 (Mon.)** Worksession (if needed), 7:30 p.m.

The Mayor and Council will break for Summer Recess after the Aug. 4 General Session. All official City business will resume at the Sept. 8 General Session.

Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Animal Matters Board (one)
- Commission on Environment (two)
- Historic District Commission (one)
- Human Rights Commission (one)
- Landlord/Tenant (one/tenant)
- Rec & Parks Advisory (two)
- Traffic & Transportation (one)

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.



WALKING TOWN MEETINGS ... The Mayor and Council conducted the fourth and final Walking Town Meeting of the spring in the Falls Grove Community. Walking Town Meetings provide residents and businesses with an opportunity to discuss issues with City elected officials and staff—right in their neighborhood.

A Look Back

Recent actions taken by the Mayor and Council:

Spates Bungalow: The building at 115 Park Ave. (known as the Spates Bungalow) was designated historic. The owner of the property had slated it for demolition in 2001, but the Historic District

Commission reviewed the property on request from the historic preservation organization Peerless Rockville. The home was built in 1923 and is in near original condition. J. Roger Spates, Rockville's Mayor from 1926-32, was a former resident of the home.

Compensation Commission: The commission of five appointed

residents meets every two years to suggest salary adjustments for the Mayor and Council. This spring, the commission asked for more time to do its work. On July 14, the Mayor and Council heard introduction of an ordinance that starting in 2005 would require the group to meet prior to Jan. 31 to allow sufficient time to complete its biennial task. The ordinance extended the amount of time the Mayor and Council would have to act on commission recommendations from 30 to 60 days.

Fees Increased: Responding to a consultant's recommendations that some City fees were not sufficient to cover costs, on July 14 the Mayor and Council approved revised fees for certain utility permits issued by the Department of Public Works for engineering reviews and pertaining to road work. Fees also were increased for some building and fire code permits; for inspection fees; for zoning and planning applications and permits; and for licensing of rental units.

A Look Ahead

Upcoming issues to be addressed by the Mayor and Council:

Undergrounding Utilities: The

Mayor and Council have pursued a policy that would require utilities to be placed underground around new construction. In cases where equipment placed underground would jeopardize levels of service, the equipment would be required to be screened (by shrubs, etc.). For new Town Center construction, utilities would be required to be placed underground or in buildings. City staff is studying options that can be considered by the Mayor and Council.

NEXT STEP

- ✓ Tentatively scheduled to be presented to M&C in September (date TBD)

Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance: Passage of an ordinance that would require adequate facilities (such as road capacity, school capacity, etc.) to be in place before permission would be granted for new developments has been a priority of the Mayor and Council. The issue has been the subject of numerous public sessions and worksessions.

NEXT STEP

- ✓ Public hearing before M&C, Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m. (tentative)

National Night Out Has 20th Anniversary on Aug. 5

Once a year communities throughout the United States join an annual crime and drug prevention event called National Night Out. Rockville has been a proud participant in the annual program, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year.

In 2002, the National Night Out organizers—the National Association of Town Watch—had the most participants in its history, with almost 10,000 communities involved. This year could be larger than ever, and Rockville neighborhoods are poised to help.

More than 50 neighborhoods took part in some capacity during last year's event in Rockville, which attracted more than 6,000 community members. This year's event—featuring traditional block parties, cook outs, appearances by McGruff the Crime Dog and plenty of neighborly fun—

should be as successful, which would be just fine according to Rockville Police Chief Terry Treschuk.

"The City of Rockville Police Department has been committed to the National Night Out program since 1983," he said. "We always look forward to visiting the numerous celebrations throughout the City, and visiting with and listening to our neighbors."

Treschuk and his officers, as well as elected City officials and key City staff, will visit various neighborhoods throughout Rockville, spreading the word to criminals that Rockville's neighborhoods are organized and fighting against crime.

If you or your neighborhood organization would like to participate in National Night Out, call the Rockville City Police Department's Community Services Office at 240-314-8922. **RR**

Quilts, Fiber Warm the City

Fiber and quilts are the artistic theme throughout Rockville during the month of August.

From Aug. 3 to Sept. 2, a variety of work in fiber and quilts from seven local artists will be on display at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery, with an opening reception on Sunday, Aug. 4, from 1-3 p.m. At Rockville's City Hall during August, intricate and symbolic quilts will be on display throughout the month.

At the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery, Verena Levine will feature an exquisite quilt collection in "New Works." One of Levine's work, "Wading Birds," is 43 x 58 inches and is just one of the detailed quilts that will be on hand throughout the month.

Two of Levine's large-scale works also will be on exhibit at City Hall, accompanied by City Arts Specialist Kathleen Moran's own unique quilts. Moran's quilts are fiber and mixed media. Both artists' work can be viewed Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at 111 Maryland Ave.

At the Glenview Mansion Art

Gallery, the group Fiber in Nearly Everything (FINE) will feature the exhibit "Defying Gravity," a collection of several works by six artists: Julie Booth, Anne Buchal, Ann Citron, Elsabé Dixon, Ann Liddle and Maria Simonsson. Each of the six artists draws from a different point of inspiration, but all arrive at a similar theme in "Defying Gravity"—3D figures and forms.

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery artists will be available to speak about their work on Thursday, Aug. 7, at 7:30 p.m. A guided tour also will be held on Friday, Aug. 8, at 10 a.m.

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is located at 603 Edmonston Drive, on the second floor of the Glenview Mansion in Rockville Civic Center Park. Gallery hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information call 240-314-8682 or check: www.ci.rockville.md.us. For recorded directions call 240-314-5004. **RR**

Summer Ballet at F. Scott

The Festival of the Bell comes alive at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 9-10, as the Rockville Civic Ballet presents "Coppelia," the family-oriented story about a toymaker, villagers in the town of Galacia, a lifelike doll named Coppelia and much more.

Rockville's Claudia Mangan will choreograph and direct the performance, which begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, and at

2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Assigned seat tickets are \$8 for general admission and \$6 for children (12 years and under) and senior citizens (60 years and older). Tickets may be purchased in person, by phone or by mail order through the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre Box Office. The box office is open from 2 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday through Saturday and is located at 603 Edmonston Dr. Phone: 240-314-8690. **RR**



Cashing in on great twilight weather, 8K participants get off to a good start on North Washington Street in Town Center.

Thousands Delight in Twilight

Familiar faces and plenty of newcomers crowded the streets of downtown Rockville for the 18th Annual Rotary Twilight RunFest on July 19. More than 2,400 participated in the 8-kilometer run and wheelchair race and 1K fun run.

The race was followed by the annual street party in Town Center in which local roads were closed to allow runners in the Washington metropolitan area's only evening street race to enjoy food, music and other festivities.

One of the City's race organizers, Lisa Splaine, said the race could not have gone better.

"Perfect weather, no injuries—everything went great," Splaine said.

Araya Haregot of Washing-

ton, D.C., and Tatyana Maslova of Gaithersburg surely agreed. Haregot crossed the finish line in a time of 23 minutes, 34 seconds, winning the men's open 8K division. Maslova was the women's champion in 27:45.

"The caliber of runners for this race is extremely high," said Deputy Race Director George Tarrico of the Montgomery Road Runners Club. "At the same time, the race is pretty well oriented to the family and casual runners."

A big reason for that is the popular post-race festival. Live music, food, refreshments, water sprinklers, a climbing wall and more entertained the race-goers long after the final runner crossed the finish line.

"To me, the festival-like atmosphere makes the Twilighter

one of the great races in the area," Tarrico said.

Rockville residents were well-represented in the festivities and in the competitive divisions of the 8K run. Resident division winners included Nianxiang Xie (in the male 75-79 age group), Jack McMahon (male 70-74), Jamie Wollard (female 65-69), Janet Newburgh (female 60-64) and Alice Franks (female 55-59).

Rockville residents placing in the top three of their age groups included Ling Cheung (female 65-69), Gretchen Triantos (female 45-49) and Peter Kirk (male 45-49).

Proceeds from the race go to the Rockville Youth Recreation Fund, which helps City children in need to participate in cost-based programs. **RR**



Local entertainer Mark Jaster delighted an audience of more than 200 at King Farm in July with a creative musical mime performance as part of the 'Kids, Parks, Performing Arts' series. Other performers will take center stage around the City this summer.

Enjoy Free Entertainment

The month of July proved quite popular for two City programs: "Kids, Parks, Performing Arts," and "Family Arts Night." Twice a week (once on Tuesday and once on Wednesday) different performers engage residents outdoors (weather permitting) with music, comedy, magic and more.

Following July's success is a stellar finale of four performances. Remember to bring lawn seating.

On Tuesdays at a different location each week, spectators have a chance to experience the remaining "Kids, Parks, Performing Arts" lineup at 7:30 p.m. Call 240-314-8682 to

confirm location. The schedule is as follows:

JULY 29: Goombay – The Caribbean Experience.

Location: Courthouse Square Park

Rain site: Glenview Mansion

AUG. 5: Baba Jamal Koram – Storytelling.

Location: Twinbrook Park, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway

Rain site: Inside Twinbrook Community Recreation Center

AUG. 12: Blue Sky Puppet Theatre – The Three (Not-So-Little) Pigs.

Location: Potomac Woods Park, 2276 Dunster Lane

Rain site: Glenview Mansion

There is one performance left in the "Family Arts Night" series that takes place at Courthouse Square each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Call 240-314-8681 to verify location:

JULY 30: Groovy – Blending of Pop, Cuban, Latin, Caribbean and African music.

Rain site: Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway **RR**

In Brief

Free Rabies Clinic

Rockville residents will have the opportunity vaccinate their pets for free, or at a reduced cost, during Rabies Clinics on Aug. 17 and Sept. 21 at the Montgomery County Animal Shelter (14645 Rothgeb Dr.) from 10-11:30 a.m. The event is sponsored by the Montgomery County Department of Police, Animal Services Division.

- Free rabies vaccinations for dogs owned by Rockville residents (\$4 fee charged for cats and ferrets of Rockville residents and out-of-county pets).
- Pet licenses for the City of Rockville will be available at this clinic.
- Dogs must be leashed; cats and ferrets must be in carriers or otherwise contained.

CALL **240-314-8930** FOR INFO

Communication Awards for City

The City of Rockville’s communications team, consisting of The Rockville Channel (cable channel 11), the graphics and printing department, the Web team and the public information office, has been named a na-

tional finalist by the City County Communications and Marketing Association (3CMA) for its “Communication Overview” and strategic plan. The group established a long-term communication plan in an effort to better serve residents, and will receive the award during a September conference in Anaheim, Calif.

Additionally, TRC-11 will be honored with national awards for the ninth consecutive year as it has been named a finalist in two categories in the annual Government Programming Awards competition of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA).

The annual NATOA Government Programming Awards competition recognizes excellence in television, multimedia and electronic programming developed by municipal agencies. Programs are judged on content and creative elements, technical and engineering production elements and overall quality.

The awards will be announced and presented at the annual NATOA conference in Denver, Colo., in September.

CALL **240-314-8115** FOR INFO

Fresh Feast Twice a Week; Music at Lunch Once

Looking for fresh fruit? Afternoon entertainment? Meeting local vendors? The City has two regular events of interest.

Every Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., the Middle Lane parking lot in Town Center is transformed into a virtual orchard where visitors may pick the freshest, locally grown/baked/cooked items around. Available weekly are baked goods of all kinds, fruits, vegetables, plants, flowers, cider, fudge, herbs and more.

Every Wednesday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., “Out to Lunch Wednesdays” features a live musical performance and Farmers’ Market along East Montgomery Avenue in Town Center.

The entertainment runs from 12 noon-1:30 p.m. The event is sponsored by the City of Rockville and made possible by Ben and Jerry’s, California Tortilla, Moto Photo, Potbelly Sandwich Works and Tara Asia.

JULY 30: Rita Clarke and the Naturals (Bayou Rhythms)
AUG. 6: Riptide (Rock)
AUG. 13: Project Natale (Classical and Latin Jazz)
AUG. 20: MASFIK (Smooth Jazz, Pop, R&B)
AUG. 27: Unstrung (Jazz)

CALL **240-314-8604** FOR INFO



The City’s ballfield crew made soggy fields playable this spring.

Wet Spring Is Recreation’s ‘Most Difficult’ Season Ever

Continuous wet weather forced the City’s Recreation and Parks Department to postpone more than 1,000 adult and youth spring sports events this spring. However, Rockville’s outstanding ballfield crew enabled most City-sponsored leagues to complete their seasons and proceed with postseason tournaments.

Chuck Miller, Sports Program Supervisor, said in a normal spring postponing 300 events would be excessive.

“I have been in sports programming since 1979 and cannot recall a season where we experienced such wet weather,” Miller said.

One particularly bad stretch was the four days from May 15-18 when all City outdoor events were postponed.

The weather affected adult

softball, Rockville Baseball Association, youth T-ball, girls softball and youth track and field.

“We were still better off than many other jurisdictions around Washington,” Miller said.

Recreation field crews, led by Sports Field Supervisor Arthur Thomas, often worked throughout the day only to see late afternoon storms wipe out their efforts. However, they had fields back in magnificent shape the following day—grass mowed, dirt dragged and fields lined.

“Because our field crews worked long hours, we were able to play on many days when others had to postpone their games,” said Miller. “And most participants were amazed by the good shape the fields were in even if it had rained the previous two or three days.” **RR**

CITY

2,9,16,23,30 Saturday Farmers’ Market.

Middle Lane Parking Lot. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

4 Town Center: Library Use Permit before Mayor and Council. 7:30 p.m. City Hall.

5 National Night Out. Meet City police officers, elected officials and neighbors during this national, 20-year tradition in Rockville. Most neighborhood parties run 6-10 p.m. 240-314-8962.

6 East Rockville Master Plan. Neighborhood Advisory Group presents plan to Planning Commission during a public hearing. 7 p.m. City Hall.

6,13,20,27 Out to Lunch Wednesdays. East Montgomery Avenue in Town Center. Farmers’ Market, music, local vendors. 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

ARTS

1-31 City Hall Quilts. Vera Levine and Kathleen Moran. 111 Maryland Ave. 240-314-1622.

3-Sept. 2 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery: “FINE – Fiber In Nearly Everything.” Julie Booth, Anne Buchal, Ann Citron, Elsabe Dixon, Ann S. Liddle and Maria Simonsson. **Verena Levine** presents fiber art quilts. Opening reception: Aug. 3, 1-4 p.m. Artist talk: Aug. 7, 7:30 p.m. Free. 240-314-8682.

3 Glenview Mansion Sunday Afternoon Concert: Tabago Bay Calypso Band. 2 p.m. Free. 240-314-8682.

5 Kids Parks Performing Arts: Baba Jamal Koram. 7:30 p.m. Twinbrook Park. Rain Site: Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. Free. 240-314-8682.

august calendar of events

RES. = Residents • NR. = Non Residents • MEM. = Member • NM. = Non Member

9,10 Rockville Civic Ballet performs “Coppelia.” 7:30 p.m. on Saturday; 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office: 240-314-8690.

12 Kids Parks Performing Arts: Blue Sky Puppet Theatre. 7:30 p.m. Potomac Woods Park. Rain Site: Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park. 240-314-8682.

15-17 Musical Theater Center: “The Music Man.” The Rockville-based performers will perform the classic, which includes hits such as “Gary, Indiana.” F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 1 and 5 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$15.50, Children/Students/Seniors \$13.50. Friday 2 p.m. Matinee Seniors Only: \$7. 240-314-8690.

NATURE CENTER

All programs at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Phone: 240-314-8770.

1 Evening Explorations – Tick Talk. Learn differences between different tick species and much more. 7 p.m. All ages. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

2 Bugs on Your Bumper. Calculate populations and mortality rates of various bugs that meet early demise on car bumpers. 10 a.m. Ages 9 and over. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

9 Stop Your Crabbin’! Catch the live crustacean, study it, then release back in the water. Don’t fret. Dinner follows. 8 a.m.-7 p.m. All ages. \$15 RES/\$20 NR.

9 Stream Search. Wade in Croydon Creek to uncover mysteries of the water—minnows, insects, crayfish and who knows what else. 2 p.m. Ages 5 and over. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

11 Perfectly Persistent Perseids. Join fellow star gazers to view the annual meteor shower radiating from the constellation Perseus. 4 a.m.-6:30 a.m. (Check for exact time closer to date). Ages 5 and over. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

16 Tiny Tot Walk – The Very Quiet Cricket. Youngsters have the chance to learn about crickets with a story, hike and more. 10:30 a.m. Ages 18 months-2 years. \$2 RES/\$3 NR.

16 Fun in the Sun. Celebrate the hot ball of gas in the center of the solar system with crafts, games and activities. 2-4 p.m. All ages. Free.

19 Sharks. Uncover the mysteries of this misunderstood predator with experiments, activities and crafts. 2 p.m. Ages 5 and over. \$2 RES/\$3 NR.

20 Jellyfish Fun. Neither fish, nor made from jelly, explore this marine animal safely. 2 p.m. Ages 5 and over. \$2 RES/\$3NR.

21 Back to School Special – Survival Backpack. Make a recycled backpack from old jeans. 2 p.m. Ages 5 and over. \$7 RES/\$8 NR.

22 Damsels and Dragons-flies! Learn how to tell a dragonfly from a damselfly, then make a flying dragon to take home. 2 p.m. Ages 6 and over. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

20 Classical Music with Murray – Name That Tune. Listen to classics, then challenge yourself to “name that tune.” 1 p.m. Free. Register by Aug. 13.

21 Managing Advanced Illnesses. An overview you do not want to miss. 1-2 p.m. Free.

25 Lottery In Person Trip. 10:30 a.m.

26 Sell Your Home for the Best Price. Timing, first impressions, what a buyer looks for and marketing are just a few of the factors in getting a great price for your home. 10:15-11:30 a.m. Free.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

All meetings at City Hall unless noted otherwise.

6 Planning Commission. 7 p.m.

12 Rockville Seniors Inc. 1 p.m. Senior Center Board Room.

20 Rockville Housing Enterprises (Housing Authority) 6:30 p.m. Commissioners Board Room, 14 Moore Dr.

21 Rockville Sister City Corporation. 7:30 p.m.

21 Historic District Commission. 7 p.m.

25 Sign Review Board. 4 p.m.

27 Human Rights Commission. 7:30 p.m.

Note: This month’s Mayor and Council meeting schedule is listed on page 5 along with Drop-In times.

Rockville Up Close: **ARNA Unites Neighborhoods in Sept.**

Residents help shape Rockville through involvement with neighborhood and civic associations and participation on Mayor and Council-appointed Boards and Commissions. On a regular basis, Rockville Up Close will take an in-depth look at these organizations.

One by one, Rockville residents make a huge difference in City relations, and when those voices unite, the message can be delivered loudly and clearly.

At least that’s what the newly formed Alliance of Rockville Neighborhood Associations (ARNA) is hoping. ARNA is a group that combines representatives from Rockville’s 50-plus civic and homeowners associations.

“An alliance like this helps the City on a larger scale,” said Randy Alton, a leading force behind the organization. “It shows the other levels of government—county, state, federal—that the citizens are behind the City.”



ARNA Chairperson Art Casanova (right) and member Randy Alton discuss the recent Town Center developments at the City press conference that was held last month on the eighth floor of the Foulger-Pratt building.

ARNA helps to address the Mayor and Council’s goal of having Strengthened Neighborhoods. What started as a simple sign-up sheet that the City’s Neighborhood Resources Coordinators initiated after the September 2002 Neighborhood Conference has transformed into an active group of community leaders, committed to working with all neighborhood associations.

“The members share ideas and engage in problem solving,” said member Mike

Menaker. “Members aren’t just talking about issues, we are doing something about it.”

According to the ARNA’s mission statement, “ARNA participants share ideas, disseminate information and respond to issues relevant to the City at large. The purpose is to maintain and enhance clear bilateral, timely information paths between the City and its neighborhoods.”

Part of the group’s communication effort involves meeting with all officials who affect

Rockville’s issues. To that end, members of ARNA are gearing up for the group’s first major event—a Neighborhood Conference on Sept. 25 to meet with invited members of the District 17 Delegation, including Senator Jennie Forehand, Delegate Kumar Barve, Michael Gordon and Delegate Luiz Simmons. The event will be held at Glenview Mansion at 7 p.m.

“This is a great opportunity for us to communicate with our elected officials,” ARNA Chairperson Art Casanova said.

ARNA Steering Group meetings, with open attendance by community association leaders in conjunction with City of Rockville neighborhood resources coordinators, are held in the Red Brick Courthouse on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:15 p.m.

Representatives from neighborhood groups that are not currently involved with ARNA are encouraged to participate by calling Telly Whitfield at 240-314-8344. **RR**

Homes Earn Rockville Historic Designation

Preserving a city’s history is integral in building charm and character, and Rockville has plenty of properties to protect.

The City’s Historic Preservation Planning staff and the Mayor and Council recently reviewed the properties at 315 Great Falls Road and 709 Grandin Avenue and designated them as Rockville Historic Districts because of their unique histories, cultural and architectural significance.

Known as the “Brewer Summer Residence,” the small house at 315 Great Falls Road stands on the site of a barn that belonged to

the house at 307 Great Falls Road. In 1906 the Brewer family assumed ownership of the 7-acre property, and ultimately John Brewer developed the land to build a summer residence.

The small house, which was completed in 1927 on the visible foundations of the old barn, is significant since the style is representative of what a small summer home in Rockville looked like in the early 20th Century. The home’s rustic charm is accentuated in the rough sawn floorboards and hand-hewn timbers from the barn. The home also rep-

resents the Colonial Revival style that was an immensely popular residential style in the 1920s.

The house at 709 Grandin Avenue was among the early homes built in the subdivision of Rockville Park in the late 19th century. The house is evidence of new subdivision and development patterns as Rockville was identified regionally as an upcoming suburban investment area adjacent to the Metropolitan B & O Railroad line.

While under construction, it was described as “a commodious dwelling house” for Charles

Corrick. Trademarks of architecture from this period, including a full-width front, prominent center gable and two-story bay, are of particular historical significance. Inside, the house features the original staircase and a unique curved wall.

Besides preserving a piece of history, homeowners can enjoy tax benefits as part of Historic Designation.

For more information on Rockville’s Historic Preservation program, visit the Web at www.ci.rockville.md.us or call 240-314-8230. **RR**

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL AUGUST PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE						
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
6 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 am	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 am	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Air Quality Codes	Public Safety Awards	Transforming Town Center	Air Quality Codes	Transforming Town Center	Preserving the Past
7:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
8 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
8:30 am	Mayor & Council ▼	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▼
9 am	▼	Transforming Town Center	Diversity in the City ▼	Public Safety Awards	Diversity in the City ▼	Transforming Town Center	▼
9:30 am	▼	Preserving the Past	▼	Preserving the Past	▼	Air Quality Codes	▼
10 am	▼	Responsive and Responsible: Rockville City Government	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Transforming Town Center	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Public Safety Awards	▼
10:30 am	▼	Air Quality Codes	Transforming Town Center	Diversity in the City	Transforming Town Center	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	▼
11 am	Cityline	Public Safety Awards	Senior Center		Air Quality Codes	Preserving the Past	Cityline
11:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
12:30 pm	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
1 pm until meeting ends	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
4 pm	Transforming Town Center	▼	Air Quality Codes	Diversity in the City ▼	▼	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	▼
4:30 pm	Public Safety Awards	Transforming Town Center	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	▼	Transforming Town Center	Preserving the Past	Public Safety Awards
5 pm	Diversity in the City ▼	Diversity in the City ▼	Preserving the Past	Public Safety Awards	Diversity in the City ▼	Senior Center	Preserving the Past
5:30 pm	▼	▼	Transforming Town Center	Transforming Town Center	▼	Responsive and Responsible: Rockville City Government	Every 15 Minutes
6 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
7 pm	Planning Commission ▼	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Diversity in the City ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Transforming Town Center	Public Safety Awards	Diversity in the City ▼
7:30 pm	▼	Mayor & Council ▼	▼	▼	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Mayor & Council ▼	▼
8 pm	▼	▼	Transforming Town Center	▼	Public Safety Awards	▼	Senior Center
8:30 pm	▼	▼	Preserving the Past	▼	Diversity in the City ▼	▼	Transforming Town Center
9 pm	▼	▼	Senior Center	▼	▼	▼	Public Safety Awards
9:30 pm	▼	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline
10 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
10:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
11 pm	Transforming Town Center	Transforming Town Center	Public Safety Awards	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Air Quality Codes	Transforming Town Center	Preserving the Past
11:30 pm	Air Quality Codes	Air Quality Codes	Preserving the Past	Transforming Town Center	Senior Center	Every 15 Minutes	Every 15 Minutes

Volunteer Time: Mentoring

There are infinite ways to share talent, experience, expertise and time with individuals or organizations that could use assistance by volunteering in the City. Each month “Volunteer Time” will highlight a different volunteer opportunity to promote an interest in giving back to the community.

Now that the school year is fast approaching, there is an excellent opportunity to become a Volunteer Mentor.

- Volunteer Mentors** will:
- Improve a youth’s self esteem and confidence
 - Help with homework
 - Help motivate an ‘at risk’ youth
 - Assist with problem solving
 - Coach life skills and values
 - Give something back to the community
 - Have a rewarding and fulfilling experience

Many adults have not only helped students get on track with their studies, but have developed lasting bonds that have affected many areas of the children’s lives.


“Mentoring allowed me to meet a new buddy,” said City employee and mentor Telly Whitfield. “We have built a very positive relationship and I hope it had an effect on his improvements in school.”

Another City employee and volunteer mentor, Sarah Gicale, echoed Whitfield’s sentiment.

“Mentoring provides you the opportunity to use every talent, every skill—every bit of everything you have—to motivate a child to learn,” Gicale said. “The thought that you might be instrumental in helping that child to a better future is an invaluable reward. On the list of things to do in life, spending time with a child is hard to beat.”

The Mentoring program is sponsored by the City of Rockville’s Division of Youth, Family and Community Services and the College Gardens Elementary School. For more information, call Mandy Smith at 240-314-8318. **RR**

For other volunteer opportunities, check www.ci.rockville.md.us under Neighborhood and Community Services.



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